

Jordan Times

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Israelis attacked 70 times in March

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli troops in Lebanon were attacked 70 times last month, Israel Radio reported Wednesday. The radio said there has recently been a marked increase in attacks, especially on the eastern front with Syria. The attacks in March killed two Israeli soldiers and one Israeli civilian roadworker, according to announcements by the army spokesman's office. A second roadworker died in March of injuries suffered earlier in the year. The radio said 32 soldiers were wounded in Lebanon in March. The military command announced that one Israeli soldier was slightly wounded and five Lebanese civilians were wounded Wednesday afternoon when an attacker threw a grenade at an Israeli patrol in the market town of Nabatiye. Troops conducted a search for the attacker, the command said. The previous day there were four separate attacks on Israeli troops in southern Lebanon, but there were no casualties, military sources said, speaking on condition they not be named.

Iraqi, Romania sign agreement

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq and Romania Wednesday signed an agreement on economic and technical co-operation at the close of a visit by Romanian Prime Minister Constantin Dascalu. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the accord was signed by Mr. Dascalu and Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan. It covers increased co-operation in the industrial, irrigation, oil, transport and communication sectors.

Omani minister leaves Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Al Alawi returned to Muscat Wednesday after a 24-hour visit here for talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. They discussed the Iran-Iraq war and a new Egyptian plan to try to end it, according to the official Middle East News Agency (MENA). Before leaving Cairo, Mr. Alawi, a frequent visitor to Egypt, told reporters he was carrying a message from Mr. Mubarak to Sultan Qaboos of Oman.

Carter warns against embassy move

ROANOKE, Virginia (AP) — Former President Jimmy Carter says moving the U.S. embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem would make the prospect of further peace negotiations in the volatile Middle East almost impossible. Mr. Carter said Tuesday he is disappointed that Democratic presidential contenders Walter Mondale and Gary Hart have said they would move the embassy. He said if the embassy were moved, Arab nations would give up efforts at peace negotiations. "To move the embassy would be a very serious blow," he said. "It would be a very sharp reversal of our country's policy."

Pakistani Air Force plane crashes

ISLAMABAD (R) — A Pakistani Air Force (PAF) plane crashed during a routine training flight Wednesday killing its pilot, a PAF statement said. It said an inquiry had been ordered into the crash which occurred near the Punjab province town of Malakwal, about 140 kilometres south of Islamabad.

Kabul expels U.S. diplomat

MOSCOW (R) — A diplomat at the United States embassy in Afghanistan has been accused of spying and told to leave the country within 48 hours, the official Soviet news agency TASS reported Wednesday. In a dispatch from Kabul, it said Third Secretary Richard Vandiver had been declared "persona non grata" for espionage, collecting of information and actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. The expulsion was also reported by the Kabul Radio which said his activities were contrary to diplomatic norms.

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Occupied lands turned election pawns Israel plans 'as many settlements as possible'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — The Israeli government has launched a drive to build as many new settlements as possible on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip before the July 23 general election, officials said Wednesday.

The ministerial settlement committee Tuesday approved the building of five new settlements and was expected to meet Wednesday to approve two more, they said. An aide of Science Minister Yuval Neeman, who chairs the committee, told Reuters a further 20 new settlements were in the pipeline and it was hoped construction could begin before July. Mr. Neeman and other hardline ministers fear the settlement drive will be halted if the opposition Labour Party, ahead in recent opinion polls, wins the elections. The aide said Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orag, who had previously announced his intention to cut the settlement budget, had now changed his mind and was making funds available for the new drive. An estimated 30,000 Israelis live on the West Bank and some 5,000 in Gaza. The Palestinian population of the two areas is about 1.3 million. The Israeli budget, approved by parliament last month, provided about \$340 million for building new settlements and expanding existing ones. Finance Ministry sources said Mr. Cohen-Orag had decided to make the whole amount available within the next three months. The Labour Party says it opposes building Israeli outposts in the occupied territories but says it would not dismantle existing settlements. Mr. Neeman's aide said there

was still not as much money available as the minister would have liked.

"He has decided to go ahead and build as many settlements as possible anyway, working on the principle that we should skip in quality but not in quantity," he said.

The Haaretz daily newspaper said Wednesday the government planned to embark on a flurry of settlement building before the elections.

The newspaper added that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was not overly concerned by public opinion polls which show the Likud government might lose the election and quoted him as saying he did not expect the Likud to complete its settlement programme before the elections (See page 2).

A settlement official, who asked not to be identified, said that 13 new settlements in the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights had been proposed to the government for establishment this summer. He did not know how many of these were among those authorised by the ministerial committee.

Shelling closes Beirut crossing

BEIRUT (R) — Heavy shelling closed the only crossing between east and west Beirut for more than two hours Wednesday following a bombardment Tuesday which killed four people and wounded 38 others, police said. Right-wing Falangist radio, broadcasting from east Beirut, said the crossing — the only route across the "green line" dividing the city — was closed when six shells landed at the mainly Christian eastern end. After the crossing closed, shelling continued to fall in east Beirut, raising fears of a recurrence of Tuesday's terror when the mainly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia retaliated against day-long shelling from west Beirut. But radios reported a ceasefire at noon and residents said shelling was generally quiet in the afternoon. Police said Tuesday's shelling killed three Lebanese army soldiers on both sides of the capital and a woman in east Beirut. Three other soldiers and 35 civilians were wounded, they added. Summit postponed A planned meeting in Dam-

China, Kuwait discuss Gulf war

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian had talks with Kuwaiti officials Wednesday on issues including the Gulf war, the Palestinian problem and the Middle East situation as a whole. Kuwait's minister of state for cabinet affairs, Abdul Aziz Hussein, told reporters after the 90-minute talks that the two countries' views on the need to end the Iran-Iraq war, now in its fourth year, were identical. Mr. Hussein said Kuwait and China agreed that the conflict should be settled through negotiations. During a courtesy call earlier Wednesday, Mr. Wu gave the Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, a message from Chinese President Li Xiannian. Mr. Hussein said. The Chinese minister is due to leave Thursday. Mr. Wu arrived late Tuesday from Tunis as part of an official tour of a number of Arab and European nations. The minister reiterated the "strict denial" of his government supplying weapons to either side in the Gulf war that he was quoted as making while in the North African state. "China did not and will not present any military supplies to either of the two parties," he told reporters here. Asked about the possible Chinese participation in the efforts to halt the war, he replied "the government of China accorded maximum importance since the start to the (necessity of) ending that war."

He indicated that Peking, apparently encouraged by its neutral stand, invited the foreign ministers of Baghdad and Tehran last year to discuss means of a "peaceful end to the conflict the quickest possible."

U.S. says Israel misuses aid meant for Palestinians

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department said Tuesday that Israel has misused the aid it received from the United States to develop the occupied West Bank and Gaza and urged the Israeli government to let the Palestinians develop their local economy. Israel receives more American aid than any other nation — an estimated \$2.6 billion in fiscal 1984. By contrast, U.S. aid for the occupied territories is put at about \$8.5 million for 1984. The State Department declined direct comment on an independent Israeli study last week which said the Israelis have directed millions of dollars away from programmes that would strengthen the Palestinian economy in the West Bank and Gaza, which have been occupied by Israel since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war. But in a written response to reporters' inquiries, the State Department was critical of Israel's attitude towards such aid. It said American assistance over the years has included social welfare projects but has increasingly been oriented towards activities that will contribute to economic development. "In general terms, we share the concern that Israel has not been forthcoming in allowing such activities to go forward," the department said. It urged Israel to be "more flexible in permitting them (the Palestinians) to undertake economic activity, at their own initiative, to develop local industry."

It said the issue has been discussed with Israeli officials and that in recent weeks a number of U.S.-funded projects have been allowed to go forward, a development the department said was "helpful."

The study of U.S. aid for the Palestinians was made by Meron Benvenisti, former deputy mayor of Jerusalem, who heads a Jerusalem-based research institute. Mr. Benvenisti said the thrust of the American aid effort has been changed by the Israeli authorities, who have power to approve or disapprove specific projects.

As an example, he said Israel has approved 35.6 per cent of the agricultural projects and 23 per cent of the industrial expenditures proposed by the United States, local Palestinians and voluntary agencies.

By contrast, he said Israeli authorities approved most public works projects, which he said would have been financed by Israeli government funds if Washington were not assisting.

He said the minority Tamil rebels had not observed the 18-hour curfew imposed in Jaffa from noon Tuesday.

The rebels are fighting for a

Chernenko elected Soviet president

MOSCOW (R) — Communist Party leader Konstantin Chernenko was Wednesday elected to the post of state president at a meeting of the Soviet parliament. A joint session of the two chambers unanimously endorsed a proposal that the 72-year-old Kremlin chief should be made chairman of the parliament's presidium, the official title of the head of state.

The proposal was put forward by Mr. Chernenko's number two in the Kremlin, Politburo member Mikhail Gorbachev.

Mr. Chernenko has followed in the footsteps of both his predecessors, Leonid Brezhnev and Yuri Andropov, in combining the posts of party chief and state president.

Western diplomats say they have also been told he has acquired the third post held by Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Andropov, that of chairman of the National Defence Council.

In his proposal speech, Mr. Gorbachev indicated that combining the party leadership with the presidency would effectively be a permanent policy.

He said it was considered important for the leader's role in foreign affairs to carry the title of president as well as general secretary of the party.

"Representation of foreign policy in the international arena by the general secretary is a convincing reflection of the fact that our foreign policy is linked with the policy of the party," he added.

After the vote, Mr. Chernenko was given a standing ovation. Looking tanned and fit, the party chief stood up and raised his clasped hands above his head in a victory salute while smiling broadly at the assembled delegates.

He then delivered a brief speech of thanks, reading from a prepared text. "The new president declared: 'We must search for equitable agreements which are necessary in the international arena.'"

Touching on domestic affairs, he pledged to continue a policy, launched by his predecessor Andropov, of raising labour discipline and responsibility in every area.

After reading his speech, Mr. Chernenko came forward a second time to propose that Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov, 79, be re-elected to his post.

The proposal was accepted and the parliamentary session closed after several leadership decrees were approved. Mr. Tikhonov is due to announce his government when the session reconvenes Thursday.

PHILADELPHIA (Agencies) — Walter F. Mondale easily won the Pennsylvania primary Tuesday, defeating a fading Gary Hart and rolling past the halfway mark in his quest for the delegates needed to capture the Democratic presidential nomination.

Mr. Mondale called it a "major step forward" and said he had established new momentum. Mr. Hart, putting forth and optimistic face as he arrived in his hometown of Denver, told supporters, "We are headed into our territory, folks."

With nearly 90 per cent of the vote in, Mr. Mondale had 46 per cent of the vote to 35 per cent for Mr. Hart.

The Rev. Jesse Jackson was



His Majesty King Hussein shakes hands with Information Minister Laila Sharaf as cabinet members and senior officials see off the King who left for Iraq on an official two-day visit Wednesday (Petra photo)

King in Iraq on two-day visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein arrived in Baghdad Wednesday on a two-day visit to Iraq for talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and other senior Iraqi officials, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said.

The King was met upon arrival by President Hussein, Mr. Izzat Ibrahim, vice-chairman of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council, Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and other senior government officials.

The King is accompanied by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat, Chief of the Royal Court Marwan Al Qasbi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh and Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid.

Talks between the two sides were expected to start Wednesday evening.

King Hussein was seen off upon departure from Amman by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, speakers of the Upper and Lower Houses of Parliament, senior officials and army officers as well as the Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' Sultan.

Before the King's departure, Prince Hassan was sworn in as Regent.

King Hussein was expected to visit other Arab Gulf countries later in the week to discuss with Arab leaders a united Arab stand on issues in the region and urge them to hold a summit of Arab leaders soon.

Foreign Minister Taha Al Masri told the Associated Press on Tuesday that Jordan hoped for an Arab summit "not later than next July."

Petra later reported that talks between the King and President Hussein started Wednesday evening.

The talks were attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister 'Obaidat, Royal Court Chief Qasbi, Court Minister Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd, and the Jordanian ambassador to Iraq.

On the Iraqi side it was attended by Mr. Ibrahim, Mr. Ramadan, Foreign Minister Aziz, Information Minister Latif Nasif Jassim and senior officials.

British queen expresses anxiety over Gulf war

LONDON (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II spoke Tuesday of the anxiety caused by the Iran-Iraq war when she gave a banquet at Windsor Castle for the Emir of Bahrain at the start of his state visit to Britain.

The queen told Bahrain's Sheikh Issa bin Salman Al Khalifah: "Both our nations strive for peace and prosperity and the prolonged war between Iran and Iraq is of deep concern to us. We share the anxiety this has caused to Bahrain and among her neighbours in the Gulf."

The 200 guests at the candle-lit banquet in the St. George's Hall of the 900-year-old castle heard the queen say that it was the common ideals, heritage and affection of two seafaring and trading nations

which had formed the basis of the friendship between Britain and Bahrain.

The queen congratulated the Emir on his 50th birthday.

The Emir recalled his long friendship with Britain and the fact that he first tasted the responsibility of state as member of the regency council when his father attended the queen's coronation in 1953.

Queen Mother Elizabeth, Princess Diana and Princess Margaret were among 12 members of the royal family at the banquet.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was accompanied by senior ministers and their wives, with other leading politicians and the Archbishop of Canterbury

U.S.-Iran tribunal head quits

THE HAGUE — Gunnar Lagergren of Sweden, president of the U.S.-Iran tribunal here since its establishment three years ago, has resigned his post, a tribunal source said Wednesday.

Mr. Lagergren submitted his resignation, Tuesday, said the source, a high official within the tribunal's administrative structure, who declined to be named.

Court officials refused any public comment on the resignation. Mr. Lagergren, an internationally known authority on international law, is the presiding official of the court established by the January 1981 Algiers agreement between the United States and Iran to mediate financial claims arising out of the Iranian revolution and the ensuing American hostage crisis.

The tribunal source attributed Mr. Lagergren's resignation in part to the furor caused by a tribunal ruling last week on claims against Iran by dual nationals.

That ruling, strongly opposed by Iran, allowed for the admission to the tribunal of financial claims against the government of Ayatollah Khomeini by Iranian citizens who had become naturalised American citizens.

Mr. Lagergren has continually been caught in a cross-fire between the American and Iranian agents at the court, who represent their respective nations' interests.

Mr. Lagergren has also come under repeated criticism from the American side.

Sri Lankan rebels continue attacks

COLOMBO (Agencies) — An 18-hour curfew was re-imposed on Sri Lanka's northern city of Jaffa Wednesday as Tamil separatists continued attacks on security forces with guns and bombs, the national security minister said.

Twenty-two rebels have been shot dead and one soldier wounded in three separate clashes between the rebels and security forces since Tuesday, Minister Lalith Athulathududali told reporters.

He said the minority Tamil rebels had not observed the 18-hour curfew imposed in Jaffa from noon Tuesday.

The rebels are fighting for a

separate state for Tamils who comprise 2.5 million of the island's 15 million people in Sri Lanka's northern and eastern provinces.

A mob of 500 young Tamil extremists threw explosives at a Buddhist temple in Jaffa Wednesday shortly after the curfew expired, the Associated Press reported.

Military troops opened fire on the crowd, but it was not immediately known if there were any casualties.

It was the second time in two days that the Naga Vihara, or snake temple, was attacked by militants seeking a separate Tamil

state on the Sinhalese-dominated island nation.

Tamils, who make up 18 per cent of the nation's population but dominate in the Jaffa district, are mostly Hindus. The majority of Sinhalese are Buddhists. The Associated Press Wednesday quoted witnesses as saying that 500 young Tamils rode up to the temple on bicycles and hurled explosives at the shrine. There was no immediate report on damage.

The killing of 13 majority Sinhalese soldiers by rebels in Jaffa last July sparked widespread ethnic violence in which nearly 400 people, mainly Tamils, died.

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Saudi envoy says Arabs may buy Soviet weapons

WASHINGTON (R) — Saudi Arabia's ambassador to Washington said Arabs will take their weapons purchases and up to \$13 billion in other trade to the Soviet Union or elsewhere if the U.S. arms market is closed to them.

Prince Bandar Ibn Sultan Tuesday told the Washington Press Club the withdrawal of a proposed sale of U.S. air defence missiles to Saudi Arabia and Jordan last month under pressure from Israel's supporters in Congress spotlighted "a very dangerous trend."

"The Israelis are doing their best to drive us out of the American market, particularly in weapons," he said.

Saying U.S. trade with Arab Nations totalled \$13 billion a year, creating some 600,000 American jobs, he asked if Israeli security and U.S. interests would be served if the Arabs took their arms business to Moscow, Paris or London.

"We are determined to defend ourselves, and we will get those weapons anywhere," he said.

"We prefer to have them from the United States of America," he said, but he added the Arabs "don't have to take that pushing around" from Israel and its U.S. backers.

Warning against embassy move

Calling on the United States to

America's course to be."

5 elements for peace

Saying U.S. relations with the Arabs were not "at a high peak at this stage," he added: "You've got to stop looking at us as just oil and dollars and look at us as human beings."

Prince Bandar listed what he called the five most important elements for peace to prevail in the Middle East:

"There is no future at all for the emasculated version of autonomy (for Palestinians) which is the Israeli interpretation of the Camp David treaty."

"The Saudi objection to Camp David was 'not what was said there but what was not said there, which is the necessity for self-determination for the Palestinian people.'"

"The 1982 Reagan plan and the proposal adopted by the Arabs at Fez, Morocco, soon after are 'the only major peace proposals now before the world' and efforts should focus on bridging those two positions."

"Peace efforts can succeed only if there is no attempt to divide the Arab states into blocs."

"U.S. resolve and respect for all the people of the Middle East are important ingredients in helping to bring peace to the area."

play a more even-handed role in the Middle East, the Saudi envoy also warned against moves in Congress to transfer the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

"We believe strongly that no change should be done in the Jerusalem situation" until the status of the city holy to Muslims, Christians and Jews is settled by negotiations, he said.

Moving the American embassy to Jerusalem at this time, he said, "will profoundly affect one billion Muslims around the world like you have never seen it before."

He said there was a perception among Arabs that the United States applies "two standards, one for the Palestinians and the other for the rest of the world" and that every time a U.S. president tries to be more even-handed in the Middle East "the Israelis jump on him."

"America's role in the Middle East is essential," he said. But he urged Americans to reflect more thoughtfully on such questions as "how steady and persevering, how broad-based and even-handed is

New mandate urged for UNIFIL

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Tuesday recommended a renewal of the mandate of the U.N. force in South Lebanon and "at the appropriate time," an expanded role for the contingent.

In a written report to the Security Council, he said the Lebanese government had requested a further six-month renewal when the present term of the force ends on April 19.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said the current role of the 5,688-strong U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) did not measure up to the objectives assigned to it when it was dispatched to the area in 1978 nor to subsequent Security Council guidelines.

These were, principally, the withdrawal of Israeli forces and the restoration of peace, normality and the authority and sovereignty of the Lebanese government.

"I therefore suggest that the council consider, at the appropriate time, and without prejudice to arrangements elsewhere in Lebanon, a future course of action which would make more effective the mandate of UNIFIL specifically in southern Lebanon, in the context of the withdrawal of Israeli forces from that area," the secretary-general stated.

He said this would include:

"A. The temporary deployment of UNIFIL, with elements of the Lebanese army and Internal Security Forces, in areas vacated by Israeli forces."

"B. The immediate deployment of elements of UNIFIL in the Sidon area on Israeli withdrawal from that area, with a view to ensuring the safety and security of the population, including Palestinian refugees in the camps in that area."

"C. The working out of the necessary arrangements to ensure that Southern Lebanon becomes a zone of peace under the sovereignty and authority of the Lebanese government."

Israeli troops who invaded Lebanon in June 1982 to attack Palestinian commandos withdrew last year to a line along the Awali River north of Sidon.

UNIFIL was sent to Lebanon following an earlier Israeli incursion in 1978. It is made up of troops from Fiji, Finland, France, Ghana, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Senegal and Sweden.

Israel has said it will seek guarantees for the safety of its northern border from commando attacks before withdrawing its invasion army.

Mr. Perez de Cuellar said he did not underestimate the difficulties of his proposed plan for an expanded UNIFIL role.

But he said a reversion to genuine peace and normality in Southern Lebanon would be in the interest of virtually all concerned. Positions varied less on this general objective than on the conditions in which it was to be achieved.

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Congressmen press for U.S. embassy move

WASHINGTON (R) — Congressional supporters of a bill to transfer the U.S. embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem renewed their campaign Tuesday and one accused President Reagan and other politicians of hypocrisy for opposing the move.

Mr. Reagan has said he will veto legislation moving the embassy if it reaches his desk. Senior administration officials say the move

could undermine U.S. credibility with Arab countries.

Representative Tom Lantos, the prime sponsor of the bill, said Mr. Reagan had stated in the past that Jerusalem should be "undivided under Israeli sovereignty."

Testifying before two House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Subcommittees, Mr. Lantos said: "It is a measure of political hyp-

ocrisy on the part of some in both political parties that we now find such vehement objections to our much more modest effort belatedly to designate a building in West Jerusalem as the American Embassy in Jerusalem."

The legislation has broad bipartisan support in a Congress fully aware of the strength of Jewish-American voters.

Syria warns against partition of Lebanon

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria warned Wednesday it would not allow the proposed disengagement of forces in Lebanon to lead to the partition of the country.

The government newspaper Tishrin said in a commentary: "Syria will not permit any faction in Lebanon or outside it to tamper with the unity of Lebanon, whatever the cost and sacrifices this entails for us."

Lebanon's rival factions have agreed to a plan whereby they would pull back their fighters by up to 700 metres along a confrontation line that extends from the centre of Beirut to the mountains to the south-east.

The disengagement is intended

to be a prelude to political dialogue. Tishrin charged that instead some groups want to use the disengagement to partition Lebanon.

It was apparently referring to proposals by the "Lebanese Forces" militia and some other leaders for dividing the country into religious cantons which would still be united under a central government.

"We will not permit the forces favouring partition to turn the disengagement lines into an accomplished fact," Tishrin said. "A disengagement agreement must only separate the combatants and not the citizens."

Hundreds of drivers wait for days at Israeli checkpoint

BATER, Lebanon (R) — Hundreds of drivers have waited for more than a week at a checkpoint in the Lebanese mountains because Israeli soldiers have all but closed the only route between South Lebanon and the rest of the country.

On each side of the Israeli checkpoint near the village of Baier, a queue of cars and trucks at least four kilometres long stretches along the narrow, rutted road.

The Israelis let people walk across but allow only a few vehicles through each day after lengthy searches.

Families have been sleeping in their cars in cold, rainy weather, relying on snacks sold by boys from the nearby village. Fights have broken out when drivers tried to jump the queue.

The road through the Baier checkpoint, 40 kilometres south-east of Beirut, has been the only route to and from the south since fighting between opposition militias and the Lebanese Army closed a highway along the coast in February.

Israeli forces closed the road on March 29, saying they had found mines on another road in the area. They opened it on April 1 but restricted traffic to a trickle after a Palestinian commando attack in occupied Jerusalem on April 2.

"Israel is choking us," said Shawqi, a Shi'ite Muslim truck driver. He said he had been waiting since April 2 to enter the south to pick up a load of citrus fruit.

"If the road stays this difficult, I won't ever do it again, Shawqi said, but added: 'If I don't work, I can't eat.'"

For a round trip which could now take him two or three weeks, he said he would be paid 1,500 Lebanese pounds (\$270).

From that he has to pay the equivalent of \$45 for fuel and \$55 duty to the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia which controls the road between Baier and Beirut.

Poll gives Israeli Labour increased lead over Likud

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — The opposition Labour Party has increased its support among Israeli voters while backing for the ruling Likud Party has fallen, according to a public opinion poll published Wednesday.

The poll, in the Yediot Aharanot newspaper, said Labour

would have won 52 seats in the 120-seat parliament if elections were held now, compared to 41 seats for Likud.

"A similar poll last month, before the decision to dissolve parliament and hold general elections on July 23, gave Labour 49 seats and Likud 46 seats."

U.S. must continue search for Middle East peace, Draper says

NEW YORK (USIA) — The United States must stop agonising over its failures to bring peace to Lebanon and look ahead to finding another way to gain peace, not only in Lebanon but throughout the Middle East, Ambassador Morris Draper said April 9.

Mr. Draper, President Reagan's former special emissary and a negotiator of the abrogated Israeli-Lebanon agreement, told the Foreign Policy Association here that the United States must not become bogged down in "unnecessary despair" and that "we must stop lacerating ourselves."

"We have had setbacks, but it is not the end of the game," Mr. Draper said. "The Syrians may have won the first innings, but there are nine innings in the

game," Mr. Draper said using the analogy of American baseball.

Mr. Draper said that for the next few months, the United States may be on the sidelines in Lebanon because of the political uncertainties surrounding the upcoming Israeli elections in July, the U.S. presidential election in November and the disarray of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) after the recent split orchestrated by Syria against PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat. But "in the end," he said, "the United States will have to get down to stabilising the situation and dealing with the unfinished peace process."

There are too many "flashpoints" and the situation is "much, much too dangerous," for the United States not to take an active role in the Middle East, he

said. With Syria's increased support from the Soviet Union, the possibility exists for a major U.S.-Soviet military confrontation in the Mideast unless the problems are resolved.

The present situation in Lebanon — with the Syrians and Israelis administering parts of the country — "is basically intolerable to the United States," Mr. Draper said. The potential for Syrian-Soviet and Israeli confrontation in the skies over Lebanon "is far too risky ... much, much too dangerous" for the United States not to get involved.

The United States would be "sucked into" an Israeli-Syrian confrontation over Lebanon. That could lead to a Soviet-U.S. confrontation, he said.

Mr. Draper pointed out that the situation is much different in 1984

than it was in 1982 when the United States first tried to help the Lebanese peace process. For example, the Syrians now have a major new air defence system from the Soviet Union that includes ground to air missiles that can reach as far west as Cyprus.

"One of the major objectives the United States has sought to achieve over the years in the Middle East is to forestall a Soviet and American military confrontation. The Middle East has been a scene of heavy competition by the superpowers for decades (and to forestall a confrontation) has been at the heart of our thinking and actions," Mr. Draper said.

"The United States will have 'to look to our interests. We must not be unnecessarily deterred by disappointments," he continued. "We ought to stop lacerating our-

selves over the catastrophes. They are setbacks, but it is not the end of the game."

Mr. Draper's remarks were one-half of a two-part programme of the Foreign Policy Association's discussion on "The lessons of Lebanon." Appearing on the programme with Mr. Draper was former Under Secretary of State George Ball.

Mr. Ball disagreed with Mr. Draper on every aspect of the Lebanon situation and characterised Lebanon as "marginally relevant to U.S. policy" and the U.S. role as one of "subservience to Israel."

Mr. Ball said that through its actions in the last two years, the United States has lost its "prestige, authority and influence" in the Middle East. Israel helped Syrian President Hafez Assad gain

influence in Lebanon, and helped Syria acquire better weapons from Moscow, he said.

"Only because of Israel the United States is the big loser in the Middle East," Mr. Ball said. "The United States is not Israel's legal guardian and it should stop acting as if it were."

Mr. Draper countered Mr. Ball's remarks, stressing that the United States is the only outsider with influence in the region. The United States has shown — through the Camp David process — that the only path to peace is through negotiations. "As long as that theme is there and continues to be credible," U.S. support for Israel is not debilitating.

He also warned that the United States cannot adopt a pacifist policy, sit by, and let another explosion ignite the Mideast situation.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

16:30 Koran
16:40 Cartoons
17:00 Children's Programme
17:25 Children's News in Hebrew
18:30 Programme Review
19:30 Local Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic Series
21:30 Local Comedy
22:20 Arabic Film
23:10 News in Arabic
23:10 Play Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:00 News in French (Journal)
19:20 French Programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy: Reggie
21:10 News in English
22:15 Feature Film: Crackle of Death

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 95.9 MHz, FM & parity on 95.9 MHz, SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsday
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:30 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Instrumentals
14:30 News in Arabic
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:30 Old Favorites
17:00 Special Feature
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:30 Good Old Days
18:30 Music
19:00 Newsday
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:30 Evening Show
22:00 News Summary
23:00 Evening Show
24:00 Close Down

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newsday 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:05 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Pecked Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsday 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:05 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 The Cambridge Busters 09:45 Network UK 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 Music For a While 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Holst and his Circle 12:15 Monitor 12:30 The Harvey Harlow Story 12:40 World News 12:45 News about Britain 12:55 News Ideas 13:25 The Week in Wales 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 News Summary 15:30 News Summary 15:30 The Pleasure's Yours 16:30 Discovery 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian 19:40 The Week in Wales 19:45 Sports Round-up 20:00 Newsday 20:30 Thirty-Minute Theatre: A Visit From Miss Probert 21:00 Outlook: Report 21:45 Look Ahead 21:45 Report on Religion 22:00 World News 22:05 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 A Jolly Good Show 23:15 Ulster Newsletter 23:20 In the Mearne 23:30 Business Matters 24:00 World News 00:05 The World Today 00:25 The Week in Wales 00:30 Financial News 00:35 Reflections 00:45 Sports Round-up 01:00 World News 01:05 Commentary 01:15 Merchant Navy Programme 01:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA
MW 1260, SW 7200, 95.5, 11740, 11925 & 15210 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning News on the hour, news summaries, business reports, science and medicine, sports reports: VOA editorial and world and U.S. opinion roundups, analysis, viewpoints, features 17:10 News 17:30 Special English News and Features 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Now Music USA 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Special English News and Features 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Now Music USA 21:00 Newsline

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* Paintings exhibition by Hind Sharif Nasser at the Royal Cultural Centre on Thursday.

* Paintings exhibition by Jordanian Artist Diana Hajjar Shamouni at the Goethe Institute.

* "4 one Exposition d'Arts Plastiques", starts at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267
American Centre Tel. 44371
British Council Tel. 41520
French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009
Goethe Institute Tel. 44203
Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777
Haya Arts Centre Tel. 665195
Husseini Youth City Tel. 667181
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 41793

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qafra (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal Lubdudh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, Tel. 30128.
Martyrs' Memorial (Military Museum): Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664230.

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Lubdudh, 37440
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 661157
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, 23541
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 41559
Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 71331
Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 75261
St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 71521
Amman International Church (Latter-day Saints) meets at 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

03:45 Fajr
05:09 (Sunrise) Shuruq
11:57 Dhuhur
15:13 Asr
18:04 Maghrib
19:25 Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alin Information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 53230, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

07:05 Cairo (MS)
07:05 Agaba (RJ)
07:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
07:15 Bucharest (RO)
07:30 Jeddah (RJ)
07:45 Dhahran (RJ)
07:45 Kuwait (RJ)
07:45 Cairo (RJ)
10:00 Damascus (RJ)
10:00 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00 Riyadh, Riyadh (Saudi)
10:30 Istanbul, Ankara (TA)
14:30 Tripoli, Larnaca (LN)
14:40 Kuwait (RJ)
15:30 Baghdad (RJ)
15:30 London (RJ)
15:35 Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (AI)
17:00 Agaba (RJ)
17:05 Athens (RJ)
17:10 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:10 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KL)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
20:20 Athens (RJ)
20:20 London (BA)
20:30 London (BA)
06:30 Cairo (RJ)
06:45 Baghdad (RJ)
06:50 Dubai, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)
01:05 Cairo (MS)

DEPARTURES

08:10 Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
08:45 Cairo (RJ)
08:45 Damascus (RJ)
07:00 Agaba (RJ)
06:00 Damascus, Paris (AF)
06:05 Cairo (MS)
10:00 Damascus, Athens, Geneva, (SR)
10:15 Bucharest (RO)
10:45 Athens (RJ)
11:00 Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 Album Time 12:15 Merchant Navy Programme 12:30 Business Matters 13:00 World News 13:05 News Summary 13:15 In the Mearne 13:25 Ulster Newsletter 14:15 Jazz for the Airing 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 News Summary 15:30 News Summary 15:30 The Pleasure's Yours 16:30 Discovery 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Outlook 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 18:15 Assignment 18:45 The World Today 19:00 World News 19:05 Meridian

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17:00 Agaba (RJ)
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17:10 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:10 Amsterdam, Larnaca (KL)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
19:15 Zurich, Larnaca (SR)
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Hassan urges stronger intra-Islamic links

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan returned home Tuesday evening after a visit to Turkey where he delivered a message from His Majesty King Hussein to President Kenan Evren.

Prince Hassan also met Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to discuss Jordanian-Turkish economic co-operation among Third World nations, especially among Arab and Islamic nations in the Middle East region.

In his talks, Prince Hassan explained that Third World nations

should strive to increase co-operation among themselves in order to bolster their stand in the face of external challenges.

He mentioned three of the most important areas of co-operation among Arab and Islamic nations namely developing skilled manpower resources, absorbing modern technology and ensuring food security.

Prince Hassan also underlined the need to build a bridge to facilitate the transfer of ideas from planners and intellectuals in Arab and Islamic nations to decision-makers in their countries.

The idea is designed to promote Arab and Islamic economic and social life along the lines adopted by the Arab Thought Forum which is chaired by Prince Hassan.

Local firm wins soya bean award

AMMAN (Petra) — A local firm Wednesday signed an agreement with the Ministry of Transport to unload 250,000 tonnes of soya beans from ships and then to package them for distribution in the local market.

The operation, to be carried out at Aqaba port entails the employment of special mechanical equipment which will be imported for this purpose.

The agreement was signed here by Transport Minister Taher Hikmat and the local company's chairman of the board of directors.

Conference aims to promote child dental health care, says organiser

By Affah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The third Jordanian dental conference opens Thursday under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, at the Professional Association Complex.

The two-day conference, which is being organised by the Jordan Dental Association (JDA) scientific committee, will feature 16 working papers in various fields of dentistry.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, the chairman of the JDA scientific committee, Walid Maraqa, said that one aim of the conference is to increase the contact between the Jordanian dentists and the community to help introduce preventive measures to

keep the teeth and gums of schoolchildren in good health.

Dr. Maraqa added that another aim of the conference is to adopt policy regarding school dental health, a matter which will be discussed in the first session of the conference.

"The recommendations are to be given to the governmental departments concerned to start developing the required dental services," he said.

The third aim is to show Jordanian dentists the new developments in dentistry through the presentation of papers during the conference, Dr. Maraqa pointed out.

On the participants at the conference, Dr. Maraqa said the conference includes representatives from the Ministries of Health and Education, the Royal Medical Services, the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, the Water Authority as well as from universities in Damascus and Baghdad.

Dr. Maraqa added that representatives from World Health Organisation, the University of Bordeaux in France and experts from American universities will participate in the conference.

During the conference, dental films programme will be shown.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

Kittaneh family announces with profound grief and sorrow the death of

CHARLES SAMIR KITTANEH

in New York on 9/4/1984 at the age of 33.

Condolences will be accepted at a later date to be announced after the family's return from the United States.

Envoy re-affirms India's support for peace efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Information Minister Laila Sharaf and Indian Ambassador to Jordan Pyare Lal Santoshi Monday discussed the situation in the Middle East, the Palestinian problem and latest developments in the region.

During the meeting, held at the Information Ministry, Mr. Santoshi expressed India's concern over the situation in the region and re-affirmed New Delhi's support for peace efforts in the Mid-

dle East, an embassy source said.

Mrs. Sharaf and Mr. Santoshi also discussed Jordanian-Indian co-operation in the field of information and ways to strengthen existing relations, the source added.

Later, Mr. Santoshi also met the new director-general of Jordan Television, Munir Durra, with whom he discussed possibilities of exchanging documentary films between Indian television networks and JTV.

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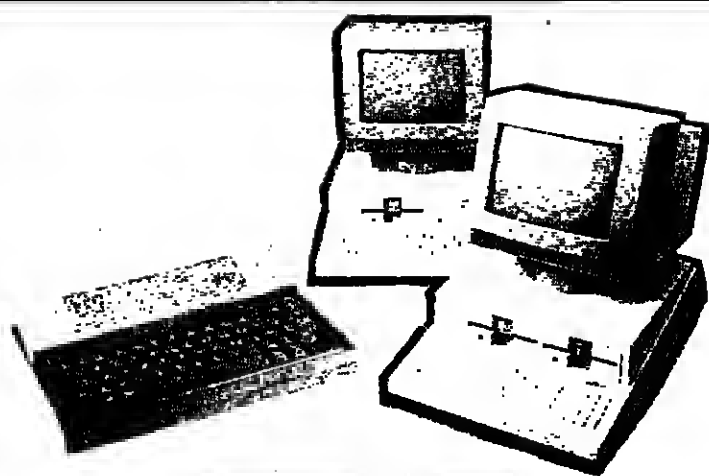
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Mr. John Clench - general manager of Spinneys in Jordan with Mr. Bassam Fared Nimri, winner of a video camera.



Mr. John Clench - general manager of Spinneys in Jordan with Mr. Marwan Abu Hamad, winner of a video camera.



Mr. John Clench - general manager of Spinneys in Jordan with Miss Rawan Naim Naoum, winner of colour TV set and her father Mr. Naim Naoum.

The first part of the Wrigley Chewing Gum, "Elka Saham" prize draw has been made on Radio Monte Carlo. Lucky prize winners in Jordan have been listed in the local newspapers on 1.4.84. Spinneys 1948 Ltd., agent for Wrigleys in Jordan have contacted all 297 personally to invite them to the Qweismeh office to receive their prizes.

Presentation of the prizes took place on 9/4 - 11/4 when the Spinneys office received lucky winners from far and wide. Happy, smiling faces were everywhere - like those in the pictures above - the winners of the major television, video cameras and video games prizes. John Clench, general manager of Spinneys made the presentations - congratulations to one and all and make sure you hurry to take part in the second draw at the end of the month.

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Is the battle on?

THE REMARKS in Washington a few days ago by Saudi Arabian Ambassador to the United States Prince Bandar bin Sultan, to the effect that the Arabs would take their arms purchases and other economic business away from the United States if the American arms market is closed to them, seem to us to be important remarks that should be taken seriously in America. But how important are they? How seriously are Arab leaders taken in America? In short, do we in the Arab World suffer from the same poor credibility that we accuse Americans of?

Prince Bandar's thoughts are logical, and appropriate. If the American arms market is closed to Arabs because of Israeli pressure, the Arabs should take their business elsewhere — to Europe, the East bloc, the Far East and South Asia. But we are slightly uneasy about the link that Prince Bandar makes between Arab policies and American arms. Why only arms? Why don't the Arabs use their economic power to make a political point in response to the general course of American policy in the Middle East? Why don't we use our economic power as a counterpoint to the vast American support that perpetuates Israel's intransigent and belligerent posture?

It is a good question, to which we have never heard an adequate answer. We also suspect the decision-makers in Washington have also never heard an adequate answer to the same question, and therefore are likely simply to shrug off warnings such as they have heard this week from Prince Bandar.

It remains, therefore, for the Arabs to talk a bit less and act a bit more. If we have economic power and are prepared to use it in support of our political objectives, then we should, quietly, do so. We suspect there is widespread support for such a course among the masses of Arab people, whose thirst for dignity and self-respect is enormous and sadly unquenched. Arab leaders who think of using economic power as a political tool would gain considerable support from their people if they would do what they keep threatening to do. Are we fighting a battle against our enemies, or are we not?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Israeli military build-up

THE IRAQI government has warned the international community of an impending Israeli aggression on its economic and military installations. The move was coupled with a strict warning by Iraq to the Israeli leaders that Iraq will not be content by repelling any attack but will take deterrent action to retaliate. At the same time there are persisting reports about Israeli preparations going on now for launching a wide-scale aggression on Syria and Lebanon.

It is clear to everyone in our area that Israel and the United States are preparing an adventure by which they hope to strengthen their shaky position in the area following their failures in Lebanon. The coming strike is much needed by the Likud Party to improve its image in Israel following the series of failures on the economic and military fronts. The United States now lives a presidential year and the hopeful candidates are expected to do anything to please Israel, and so secure the Jewish votes in the coming election. Therefore, it will not be surprising if the Americans support Israel's aggression or even take part in its execution.

The Israeli leaders are certain of one thing: that the U.S. will foot the bill of any weaponry used or lost in any future military action against the Arabs in the same manner as they have always been sure of continued U.S. economic and financial aid to the Zionist state.

Al Dustour: Iraq warns Israel

IRAQ'S MEMO to the Security Council warning of an impending Israeli attack on its territory follows Western and Zionist campaigns against the Arabs in general and Iraq in particular. The Western and Zionist information media have been accusing Iraq of producing chemical gases with the purpose of paving the way for an aggression on Iraq.

The hysterical campaign against Iraq reminds us of a similar one which preceded Israel's attack on the Iraqi nuclear plant in 1981. It seems that this campaign has been orchestrated with full backing and support by the U.S. administration.

Iraq's memo called on the international community to shoulder its responsibility and prevent any other act of aggression on the Arab Nation. The memo consisted a warning to the world of the consequences of another Israeli aggression on the Arabs. The Israelis, backed by the Americans, are keen on preventing the Arabs from possessing any scientific installations and developing their countries. Therefore, they claim that the Arabs are producing chemical weapons to give themselves the excuse for attacking Arab scientific centres and other installations.

Iraq, which is now involved in a war in defence of its territory is in need of Arab support and assistance to help it face the challenge and repel aggression.

Sawt Al Shaab: Intimidation tactics

ALL INDICATIONS point to the fact that Israel does not wish to be involved in a war at present. The campaign in Lebanon has left its devastating consequences on Israel's society and its economy. The current tension in the Middle East is but a psychological warfare directed against the Arabs to deter them from taking any action against Israel. The massing of Israeli troops along the border with Syria should be considered as a show of force in response to Syria's success in commanding the scene in Lebanon.

The ruling Likud coalition feels that massing troops will enhance Israel's badly-shaken morale, following the successive failures on the internal and external fronts, and the downfall of Begin and the abrogation of the Israeli-Lebanese May 17 agreement.

Also by escalating tension in the region, Israel hopes to exert pressure on the U.S. to force it to move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem and so strengthen the Likud's position prior to the general national elections. At the same time the Israeli government hopes to abort any U.S. arms sales agreements with the Arabs in exchange for promises of Jewish votes in the coming U.S. presidential elections.

Dancing away from Lebanon responsibility?

By Tom Wicker

NEW YORK — Despite his efforts to conceal it in lofty diplomatic language, Ronald Reagan's flip-flop in Lebanon is visible to anyone who wants to look. But does anyone really want to look? Or will Mr. Reagan, with an engaging smile and an old soft-shoe, once again dance away from responsibility?

Only two months ago he suggested that Speaker Tip O'Neill was "ready to surrender" by withdrawing the Marines. Now Mr. Reagan has given the speaker and the president pro tem of the Senate formal notice that he has withdrawn the Marines — a 180-degree reversal.

Last October, after 241 Marines were killed in a truck bombing of their barracks, Mr. Reagan insisted that keeping the force in Lebanon was "central to our credibility on a global scale."

Even before that he had discovered an American "duty to stop the cancerous spread of Soviet influence" in the Middle East and to save the region from being "incorporated into the Soviet bloc."

A month before the president's slur on Mr. O'Neill, a report from a Pentagon commission of inquiry warned him that his "expansion of our military involvement in Lebanon greatly increased the risk to the small Marine contingent. The report urged an urgent need for re-assessment of alternative means" to achieve U.S. goals in Lebanon.

Mr. Reagan did nothing. Then in March the Lebanese government quite predictably reached a state of near-total collapse and he was forced to move the Marines from their exposed position on land to the safety of U.S. ships offshore. That, however, was not a withdrawal or a retreat; it

was, as Mr. Reagan insisted, only a "redeployment."

Here was another in a long string of contemporary political perversions of language to conceal or distort reality. The redeployment, moreover, was accompanied by much ringing rhetoric about how the Marines might return.

But now the flip-flop is complete. Mr. Reagan has decided to "terminate the participation" of the Marines in the Multinational Force that had been in Lebanon since 1982. The cost? The lives of 264 Marines, combat wounds for 137 more and roughly \$60 million — not to mention an apparent decline of the Reagan administration's credibility through the Middle East.

For all of this Ronald Reagan has no one to blame but himself, despite George Shultz's forlorn attempts to throw the blame on Congress and on the War Powers

Act. Whatever the deficiencies of these institutions, Congress in fact voted in October to give Mr. Reagan a free hand in Lebanon for 18 months; and although that resolution might have been reconsidered had he not acted first, it was his policy that failed, not the nerves of Congress.

First, Mr. Reagan sought what he was repeatedly warned were unattainable goals. In a country that has known little peace for a decade, he thought the warring religious factions could be reconciled. In a divided country that has scarcely ever known stability,

he tried to achieve it under a weak, American-supported Christian government. In a land where Syria has strong interests and historical claims, he worked to exclude Syria from a voice in Lebanon's future. And in a situation in which Soviet backing for Syria inevitably produced significant East-West ramifications, he thought a "peacekeeping force" of U.S. and NATO troops was appropriate.

Second, Mr. Reagan over adequately explained — not even to the satisfaction of that Pentagon commission — what he expected the Marines to do, or how part of a "peacekeeping force" could properly support just one of the several contending factions.

Third, by his overblown rhetoric about U.S. "credibility" — which should never have been stacked on a few hundred Marines deployed with no clearly stated mission in a position untenable both militarily and politically — Mr. Reagan laid a trap, then walked right into it. Circumstances that might easily have been foreseen, given Lebanon's troubled history, forced him to take the action he had termed surrender — the action he had declared would damage U.S. credibility.

But Mr. Reagan has demonstrated an unmatched ability to cloak his mistakes in John Wayne phrases like "saad tall" and "stay the course," and a long-frustrated nation has apparently been so hungry for the kind of tough-guy policy he has given it in the Caribbean, Central America and the Middle East that he may escape political responsibility for the fiasco in Lebanon.

Walter Mondale and Gary Hart seem too busy bushwhacking each other to make the case. The press and Congress seem generally convinced that the people don't want Mr. Reagan criticised too severely.

The facts remain: It was Ronald Reagan who sent the U.S. Marines to Lebanon and Ronald Reagan who kept them there at inordinate cost, long past whatever hope of success there might have been. — The New York Times.

Global dismay over CIA involvement in Nicaragua

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — The mining of Nicaraguan ports has spurred international concern over United States policy on Nicaragua, with criticism of Washington spreading from Latin America to Western Europe.

Since early last month, mine blasts have damaged 10 vessels as U.S.-backed insurgents stepped up efforts against the country's economy and its left-wing leadership.

Explosions have hit vessels from the Netherlands, Panama, Liberia, the Soviet Union and Japan. Soviet and Japanese sailors have been wounded by mines which U.S.-backed rebels say they placed to enforce a blockade.

In the latest expression of Latin American concern over operations against Nicaragua, the four nations of the peace-seeking "Contadora Group" condemned the mining and left no doubt they held the Reagan administration responsible.

Even before the Contadora Group's emergency meeting on Sunday, criticism of Washington's policy of confrontation with Nicaragua had spread from Latin America to Western Europe.

Less than a week after France offered to help clear mines placed off Nicaragua's Pacific and Atlantic coasts, the British gov-

ernment said it had lodged an informal complaint with the Reagan administration over the attempted blockade.

"We do not feel any interference in international navigation is legitimate and it is for that reason that we have made our representation to the United States," a Foreign Office official said in London.

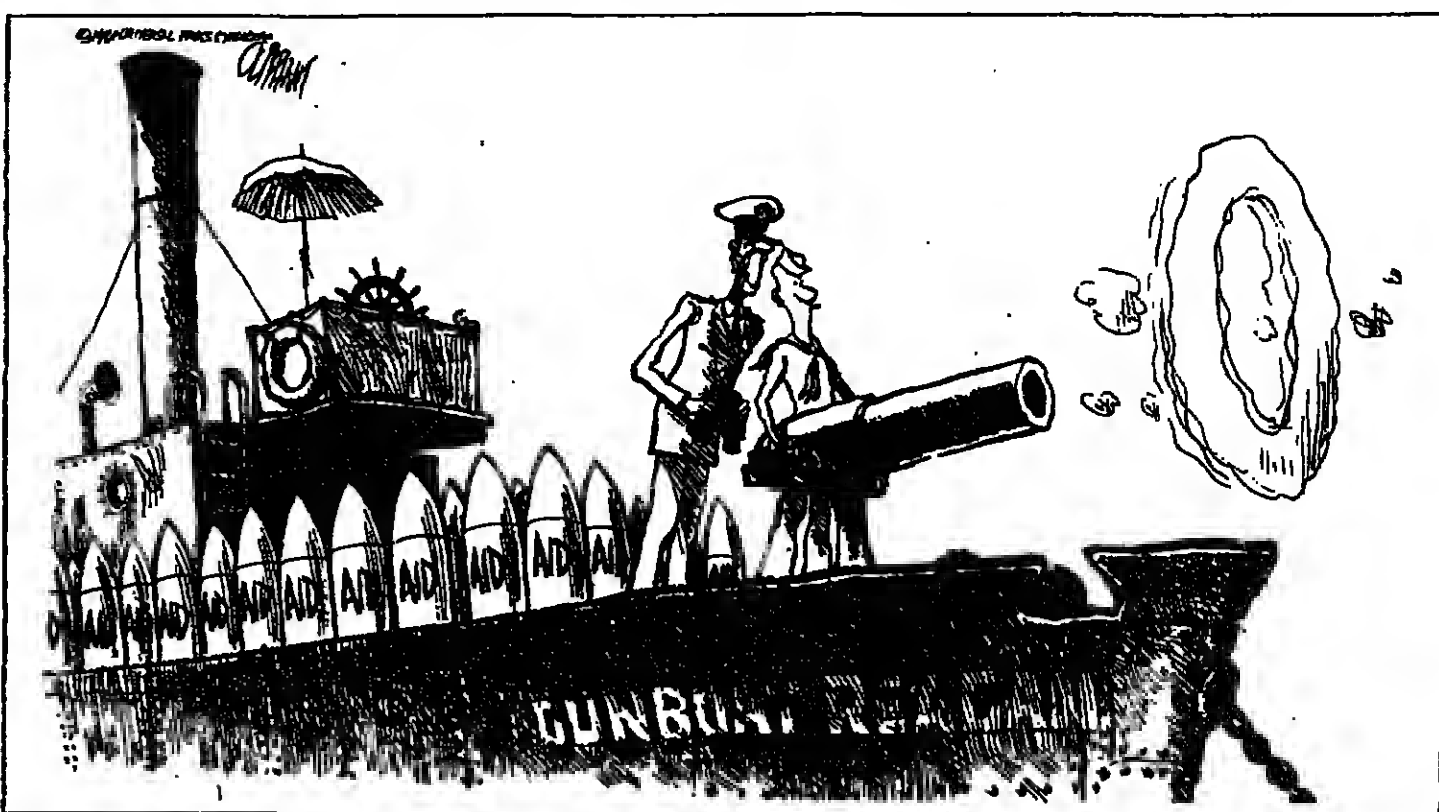
Such misgivings were noted with particular attention in Nicaragua because, unlike France, Britain has a solidly conservative government whose views of the world often coincide with those of the Reagan administration.

European diplomats in Central America said that other Western European nations, including the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain and West Germany, also viewed attacks on commercial shipping with unease and concern.

Apprehension over the U.S. role was heightened by reports published in the United States that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) was directly involved in mining the ports, with Latin American CIA agents placing some of the explosives.

On April 4, the U.S. Senate approved \$21 million in additional aid to guerrillas fighting Nicaragua's government.

After a meeting in Panama City on Sunday, the foreign ministers of the Contadora states — Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Col-



ombia — censured the U.S. without mentioning it by name.

"There are operations, like the mining of ports, which damage the economy, disturb trade and violate freedom of navigation," said the Contadora group.

U.S. officials have declined

comment on the CIA's reported participation in the mine-laying but Nicaragua accused the U.S. of indulging in "state terrorism."

It also asked the International Court of Justice to outlaw all U.S.-sponsored "covert activities" and demanded an end to U.S.

support for insurgents fighting for the overthrow of the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Washington insists that the Sandinistas are exporting leftist revolution to the rest of Central America and blames them for

most of the trouble afflicting the turbulent region.

Latin American diplomats said that while Nicaragua's complaint served to focus world attention on U.S. involvement in anti-Sandinista operations, it was unlikely to halt them.

Militant Sikh leader persistingly tries Gandhi's patience

By John Fullerton
Reuters

AMRITSAR, India — A resplendent figure in his blue turban and flowing beard, Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale is regarded as a messiah by many Sikhs.

But others see him as a firebrand who has fuelled Sikh extremists in India's Punjab state, where communal violence has claimed over 120 lives this year.

The 37-year-old preacher has become a focal point in the present clashes between Sikhs and Hindus, as the Sikhs agitate for greater political and religious concessions.

Over six feet tall, Mr. Bhindranwale is for many young Sikhs the personification of their identity, martial prowess and religious orthodoxy.

But the authorities in Punjab do not share this view. They list nine cases registered against him in the past year, all for sedition or planning revenge against police officers. However, in each case investigations are not complete and no formal charges have yet been made.

Mr. Bhindranwale's headquarters are the roof of the huge canteen building on the edge of the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple.

Open to the skies, it is the site of public audiences lasting several hours each day.

He stands on a stage with a microphone in his hands and a pistol and dagger at his belt. At his feet squat hundreds of followers, many armed with submachine-guns, rifles and swords. Newcomers toss rupees into a mounting pile of cash in front of the 37-year-old preacher.

The growl of a circling security forces helicopter does not interrupt an address to the faithful or spoil Mr. Bhindranwale's constant good humour.

Asked if he fears a raid on the temple to seize Sikh extremists sheltering in its precincts, Mr. Bhindranwale smiles. "I do not fear danger though I expect it," he says.

Mr. Bhindranwale's portrait, showing him carrying two huge sabres, is plastered throughout the narrow alleys of Amritsar's old walled city, which has been turned into an armed camp by the violence.

"To us, a man who does not carry a weapon is like a sheep (chicken)," he says. His personal bodyguard breaks into laughter.

Fearing arrest, Mr. Bhindranwale has not left the precincts of the temple since early

1983. Asked if he ever feels a prisoner atop the canteen, he replies: "This is my home and it is a fine one."

Born Jarnail Singh in 1947 — the year of India's independence — Mr. Bhindranwale grew up in a western Punjab village and spent his early years as a farmer.

He is the leader of the Sikh's large Bhindranwale order, famed for its teaching of religious scripture. The leadership mantle, which also bestowed on him the name Bhindranwale, was passed on in 1977 by the father of the present president of the All India Sikhs' Student Federation (AISSF).

The AISSF, which has many Bhindranwale followers, was outlawed last month because of its links to the Punjab violence.

Mr. Bhindranwale's political career took off in 1978 when he vowed to avenge a clash with Nirankaris, members of a breakaway Sikh sect, in which 14 people were killed.

There have been regular attacks on Nirankaris during the present troubles and last week five of them were killed in grenade blasts at a Nirankari temple.

Mr. Bhindranwale was also a key figure in forming the Dal Khalsa (party of the pure ones), which

is now an underground organisation seeking an independent Sikh nation called Khalistan in Punjab.

In 1980 the Dal Khalsa put forward 130 candidates for election as office bearers to Sikh temples, but they all lost their deposits.

"The Dal Khalsa was set up by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's Congress (I) Party to break the hold of the main Sikh political party, the Akali Dal, on our temples," says Narindarjit Singh, information officer for the Golden Temple.

"At first the Dal Khalsa was considered moderate but later it was banned by the government and its members went into hiding."

In the temple grounds today there are still members of the group who proudly show visitors embossed "Khalistan passports" and speak enthusiastically of a day when Sikhs will be independent.

Mr. Bhindranwale does not answer questions about how he became reconciled to the Akali Dal after initial opposition to it. "When we talk of Sikhs and when we talk of Sikh faith then we are one," he says.

During the past two years' agitation there has always been a veil over relations between Mr. Bhi-



ndranwale and Akali Dal leader Harchand Singh Longowal.

There have been constant reports which portray Mr. Longowal as a moderate, opposed to Mr. Bhindranwale's firebrands. Both men deny a split.

Mr. Bhindranwale has clear ideas about the path of the campaign for greater autonomy in

Punjab, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live.

"They, the government, can come here and talk," he says. "The only reason I would go to New Delhi would be to hoist our flag over the Red Fort (the ancient home of the Moghul emperors)." His supporters applauded enthusiastically.

Domestic pressures bring instable times to West Africa

By W. Joseph Campbell
Associated Press

ABIDJAN — Flattering economies and a variety of tough domestic issues have plunged West Africa into one of its most unstable periods since the independence era of a generation ago.

Ten West African countries have been jarred by domestic strife in as many months, ranging from secessionist-inspired riots in southern Senegal to coups or coup attempts in several nations, most recently Cameroon.

On Friday, rebellious Presidential Palace Guards launched a bloody attempt to seize power in Cameroon, a country long envied in the region for its relative stability. Its government said the revolt was crushed Saturday, but some fighting persisted Sunday. Military officers staged a blo-

odless coup Tuesday in Guinean impoverished but mineral-rich country that had been run by an autocratic civilian regime since independence from France in 1958.

The armed forces are assuming greater prominence in the region's domestic politics. With the takeover in Guinea and an army coup Dec. 31 in Nigeria, 15 of the 22 countries in West Africa are now run by their military.

Capt. Thomas Sankara seized power in Upper Volta in a coup last August that left at least 20 people dead.

Once-wealthy Ghana, now suffering from shortages of consumer goods, has suffered at least two bloody coup attempts since June. Coup plots also were reported foiled last fall by the ruling military authorities in Niger and Liberia, where the promised return to civilian government was recently postponed to January 1986.

There also have been student unrest in Sierra Leone and bombing attacks in Zaire.

In Guinea and Nigeria, the new military rulers cited falling domestic economies as among the principal motives for their takeovers.

A veteran Western diplomat in Abidjan observed, "It's an uneasy time for West Africa. Hard economic times have made a lot of people unhappy."

Claude Welch Jr., a political scientist at the State University of New York who has studied military takeovers, has noted that coups are cyclical and often are associated with hard economic times.

Almost without exception, the sorry plight of West African economies can be linked to the world recession.

Demand and prices for the region's exports, usually cash crops and commodities, have been slumped for at least four years and

prospects for quick recovery are slim in a region that has 15 of Africa's 24 poorest countries, as ranked by the World Bank.

Even Ivory Coast, a world leader in cocoa and coffee exports with one of the region's most robust economies, has intensified austerity measures and last winter sought to reschedule its foreign debt.

Further hampering economic performance in West Africa are heavy external debts, inflation, corruption, surging birthrates and a severe drought. A host of disparate domestic issues also have contributed to the unrest.

Corruption in oil-rich Nigeria's elected civilian government was a basic cause of the military's takeover last New Year's eve. Upon assuming power, Nigeria's leader, Maj. Gen. Muhammad Buhari, pledged to "root out the cancer worm of corruption."

Vast sums, probably totalling

billions of dollars, were said to have been skimmed illegally by politicians and office holders during the four years civilians held power.

In Guinea, the military rulers cited years of domestic repression, under the regime of President Ahmed Sekou Touré, who held power from 1958 until his death March 26 after emergency heart surgery in Cleveland, Ohio.

Hundreds of Guineans were executed, jailed or exiled during Mr. Sekou Touré's long reign and the country's self-appointed new president, Lansana Konté, immediately pledged respect of fundamental human rights, notably freedom of expression.

The rebellion in Cameroon's capital, Yaounde, was attributed by diplomatic sources in Africa to the enduring rivalry between the country's dominant political figures, former President Ahmadou Ahidjo and his successor, Paul Biya.



Paul Biya of Cameroon

For women to ponder

RABINDRANATH TAGORE, the sage of India and the East, the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize for literature, the master of the story and the novella who accommodated Eastern lore and colour to Western literary techniques, wrote a short story entitled "The Girl Between" about a man, Nivaran, who marries a second, young wife, Shailabala, upon the suggestion of his first, old wife, Harasundari, who could not give him "a child as fair as cream, as soft as butter, as handsome as Cupid." In the following passage, we pick up Tagore's profound and artistic reflection on feminine inner self in this particular situation:

"Alas, what happened to that strength that had once enabled Harasundari to give up tranquilly and without stint, for a lifetime and for her husband's sake, half of her claim to his love? On a full-moon night, when the tide floods into her lives and inundates both shores, man impulsively thinks that he can accomplish everything. Solemn promises are made then, but in the long-drawn ebbing hours of life, he

finds that the lifelong honouring of the promise is too demanding. It dawns upon him that the pledge for a gift, made out with one stroke of the pen on the day of prosperity, must be made good bit by bit in the tedious days of adversity. Then it is obvious that man is very poor, his heart very weak, his resources extremely limited.

After her long convalescence Harasundari had been feeble, anaemic, pale; she had been like the thin line of the new moon. She seemed to hover lightly over this world and felt that she needed nothing. As she gradually became stronger and her blood gained vigour, from out of nowhere a host of cosharers besieged Harasundari's thoughts. Loudly they proclaimed, "Well, you have already signed the pledge for a gift, but we'll not give up our claims."

When Harasundari finally saw her situation clearly, she gave her own bedroom to Nivaran and Shailabala. She went to sleep alone in another room.

After twenty-seven years of marriage, Harasundari gave up the room that was hers from

The Girl Between

her wedding night. When this married woman blew out the earthen lamp and went with a heavy heart to her newly made widow's bed, a fashionable young man was singing the Behag across the lane, another fellow accompanied him on the drums, and his friends shouted admiringly at the end of every refrain.

That song did not sound unpleasantly in the silent, moon-lit night to the occupants of the room next to Harasundari's. Little Shailabala's eyes were heavy with sleep, and Nivaran, his mouth close to her ear, was calling her name softly.

By now Nivaran had read Bankimchandra's *Chandrasekhar* to Shailabala, as well as the work of several modern poets. A fountain of youth that had always lain buried deep within Nivaran had been released. At this extremely unlikely time of his life it gushed forth and overflowed. No one was quite prepared for this; therefore, all his senses and sensibilities and all the routine of his household turned topsy-turvy. The poor fellow had never known that such tro-

ublesome elements lie hidden inside ordinary people — elements to unruly, so unmanageable, that they can create sudden chaos in a well-ordered life.

It was not only Nivaran. Harasundari encountered a new kind of pain. Why this yearning? What caused such unbearable pain? What the heart now desired, it had never before desired, never received. When Nivaran had gone to the office regularly like a gentleman and when lying in bed before falling asleep they had discussed the milkman's bills, the rising cost of living, and social obligations, there had been no sign of inner conflict. They certainly loved each other, but there had been no warmth or glow. It was a love unkindled and unlit.

It now seemed to Harasundari that someone had kept her from knowing the true meaning of existence. Her heart felt as if it had always been starved. Her life as a woman had been spent in sheer poverty. She had wasted those precious twenty-seven years in slavery, going to the grocery,

worrying about fruits and vegetables, the after-dinner betel nuts and spices. Today, at the midpoint of life, she saw that in the very next room a little girl had unlocked the store containing the most cherished treasure and by a sudden coup had become the empress. Women are indeed meant to serve, but they are also meant to be queens. In the process of sharing, one woman had become the servant and the other the queen. But the servant had lost her pride and the queen was not happy.

Shailabala's feminine existence also lacked the flavour of true happiness. She got such unremitting attention that not a moment was left for her to love anyone. The river may be fulfilled by flowing towards the sea and sacrificing its individuality there, but if the sea, drawn by the tide, continually moves towards the river, the river only becomes uncomfortably full within its banks. The world, with all its admiration and affection, moved day and night towards Shailabala: as a result, her self-esteem rose higher and

higher. She had no opportunity to reciprocate the world's love for her. All she knew was that everything came her way and she owed nothing to anyone. There is considerable pride but little contentment in such a situation."

It might interest you to know that Nivaran encounters many difficulties caused by his second marriage. Shailabala, the young wife, dies in the end, leaving Nivaran to feel the joy of liberation mixed with his grief. He suddenly feels that something like a bad dream had been pressing upon his chest. When he awakes, he found his life instantly and remarkably lightened.

The ending needs no comment, just ponder:

"Neither Harasundari nor Nivaran said a word. They lay side by side as they had lain before, but precisely in the middle, slept a dead girl, and neither of them could pass over her."

— Ahmad Jaber

Randa Habib's Corner

Music in the background

FOR MANY people it takes only a phone call to be able to hear news on the radio or even music.

No, I haven't lost my mind, I checked this system with my friends whose telephones are miraculously hooked with the broadcasting service. It so happens that when you dial a number (any number) you have music in the background with the voice of the speaker. If you manage to phone at 2:00 p.m., it would even be better because you will be entitled to hear the news.

This is how from now on we can imagine telephone calls to be:

"The president of X-country has arrived in Amman this morning on a six-day official visit to the kingdom etc..." the speaker would say.

"Oh, he has arrived, so we'd better not meet in your house because you live near the guest palace and the road will most probably be closed. Let's meet somewhere else," a person on the phone would suggest.

"You are right, you can come to my place tonight and we'll have a drink," the answer would come. "The president of X-country has been received at the airport..." the newsreader announces. "renewal of hostilities in Beirut," he warns.

"It is not getting any calmer in Beirut, is it?" a comment responds. "Well, no it isn't. By the way, any news from Elie? Is he still in Beirut?"

The telephones with radio broadcasts in the background change our conversations into something more useful and very actual. Well, why not? As to the secret that makes this possible, I am afraid you have to check this with the TCC, who might have a logical explanation to this miraculous phenomenon.

French Louvre exhibits children of the past

By Christiane Falgayrettes

THE CHILD'S world has greatly inspired creators in all fields as can be seen in the exhibition "Children of the Past," held at the "Louvre des Antiquaires" in Paris. Some three hundred artefacts are displayed together with various documents. These are partly drawn from private collections, notably from that of Prince Murat and that of Madame Anne-Marie Elbel, president of the Society of Friends to Toys. But most of the

assembled objects come from big museums including the Musée Carnavalet, the museum of instruments of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique, the Manufacture Nationale de Sevres (for porcelain), the union Française des Arts du Costume, etc.

If in the 17th and 18th centuries French literary works gave little space to the child, apart from the writings of philosophers who queried different systems of education as did Jean-Jacques Rousseau in

"L'Emile", artists drew and painted the child extensively. In this respect, the portraits of royal children, those of the nobility or the upper classes are very revealing: the child of this era is generally depicted as an adult in miniature. In fact, the faces and attitudes do not express innocence and freedom from care, but seriousness and gravity. The clothes and ornaments reflect the tastes of their elders. These characteristics are to be found in most of the pictures

and engravings of this epoch, with modern and expressiveness, a very beautiful portrait of a child, entitled "Le Reveur".

The artists of the 19th and early 20th centuries depicted the child for himself with his own personality. Thus for example we have two canvases in the exhibition: "La Robe Ecossoise" by Lucien Simon and "Portrait de Genevieve" by Derain, which strongly suggest the emotions and sorrows of the child's world.

But in this prestigious exhibition in the "Louvre des Antiquaires", it is not only the sculptures and canvases of French and foreign masters which fascinate the eye. The furniture, silverware, costumes and musical instruments especially created for children bear witness to the richness and quality of French craftsmanship in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, and also have the extraordinary power to make one dream.



Lucien Simon (1861-1945) — La robe ecossoise

The iceberg that sank The Titanic

By Paul Majendie
Reuter

OTTAWA — The iceberg that sank The Titanic was born of snow which fell on Greenland 3,000 years ago.

It met the last bowhead whale, watched hunters crush seal-pup skulls and saw an old Eskimo woman wander off into the snow so her family could eke out its food.

Finally, according to a new book "Voyage of the Iceberg" by marine biologist Richard Brown, history's most famous block of ice died in a melting bubble of foam off Bermuda.

After almost 20 years of voyages on research ships to the roof of the world, Mr. Brown decided the best way to communicate his love of the Arctic was to reconstruct the drama of The Titanic from the iceberg's point of view.

Author of a handful of learned treatises on seabirds, he has turned his hand to a vivid portrayal of the ice mountain that humbled man. "Voyage of the Iceberg" is a bestseller in Canada and will soon be published in Britain and the United States.

"There has only been one iceberg and its history lasted for a minute," Mr. Brown writes.

"It loomed out of a calm night in the western Atlantic on April 14, 1912, and one minute was all the time it took to rip open the side of the biggest ship in the world, doom some 1,500 people and crack the complacency of the civilised world."

Mr. Brown retraces how the iceberg was "calved" off the ice cap behind Jakobshavn Fjord in western Greenland and started its 18-month voyage up in the Arctic and down past Baffin Island.

The one-million tonne mountain turns into a floating zoo. Its underside is furred with algae. Seals and guillemots hunt through its underwater caverns. Kittiwakes take a ride on top.

Among the first humans it sees are the Sierpaluk, the only surviving Eskimos in the far northwest corner of Greenland.

"The food will run out and she will go off into the snow to die so that the rest of her family can live," Mr. Brown writes of one old Eskimo woman.

The iceberg encounters the last of the bowhead whales hiding from the remorseless hunters who bounded them into extinction.

Then come the fishermen who plead for a berth on the sealing ships that steam out of fog-laden St. John's to the ice floes of Newfoundland.

Three times on its voyage south, the iceberg runs aground. But each time it is swept out to sea

again for that historic encounter with The Titanic which leaves it with just one macabre mark — a streak of red paint down its deadly cliff face.

Hundreds of people are plunged into the icy Atlantic to die in the calm but freezing waters.

As for the iceberg, it floats from the Labrador current into the gulf stream, crossing "the boundary between the cold, grey world of ice and seabirds and the warm blue one of flying fish and sargassum weed."

"In a matter of yards, the iceberg's days are numbered. Soon it is no more than a lump of ice no bigger than a table."

North of Bermuda comes the end.

There is a soft fizz and crackle as the last of the air which was trapped 3,000 years ago on the Greenland ice cap breaks free.

The games and toys on exhibition are also a source of enchantment. Perhaps this is because the world of toys inspired their creators with a sense of aesthetics as well as of imagination. This is particularly visible in the ivory or carved silver babies' rattles, spinning tops, musical boxes enriched with jewels and with mechanisms which seem as fragile as those of automata. But one of the most extraordinary exhibits is, without any doubt, the child's perambulator, offered at the beginning of the 19th century by the Sicilians to the Duc de Bordeaux, whose bronze sculpture, signed by Philippe Lemaire is also exhibited.

With the industrial revolution, toys began to be considered as useless and "educational" games and illustrated books became part of family life.

But more than any other toy, the doll, which, thanks to progress, has begun to walk, dance and talk, exerts its powers of seduction over man, perhaps because he has given it his face and his attitudes — Radio France Internationale.

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Olympic officials call England tour 'provocative'

TUNIS (R) — Two Olympic officials Wednesday described the forthcoming England rugby union tour of South Africa as a "provocation" to black Africa in the run-up to the Los Angeles Games starting on July 28.

The officials are attending a two-day meeting of the Executive Bureau of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) which is due to hammer out a response to the English rugby authorities decision to go ahead with the controversial tour.

Most African countries boycotted the 1976 Montreal Olympics over the participation of New Zealand which maintained rugby union links with racially segregated South Africa.

ANOCA President Anani Matitia of Togo told Reuters: "We

consider this tour as real provocation and it is top of our agenda. All I can say now is that the African nations are ready to assume their responsibilities."

Though rugby union is not an Olympic sport, the England tour of South Africa has raised fears that the Montreal boycott may be repeated at Los Angeles if Britain attends.

Mario Vasquez Rana, President of the Association of National Olympic Committees, revealed he had sent a letter two days ago to the British Olympic Association asking it to do its best to have the rugby tour cancelled.

In an opening address Wednesday morning, Vasquez Rana said: "We have learned that a rugby team from Great Britain intends to visit a country which does not belong to the (Olympic)

family.

"Beware. This is a provocation to divide us, but we should be more intelligent than them."

Vasquez Rana, whose organisation groups National Olympic Committees around the world, added: "We will try by all means to prevent them from achieving their goal, but if they do, we should rebuff them."

The official did not specify what action the National Olympic Committees should take if the England tour went ahead.

Any possible decision taken at the current meeting against the rugby tour would be only a recommendation which would have to be approved by each African country's National Olympic Committee, officials said.

In Nairobi, Kenyan sports minister Kenneth Matiba Wednesday

said an African boycott of the Los Angeles Olympics in retaliation for next month's England tour might please South Africa.

He told a luncheon for journalists and sport officials that such a boycott might satisfy Pretoria because South Africa had itself long been excluded from the Olympics because of its apartheid policies.

"South Africa might create a situation which makes Africa boycott the Los Angeles Games and then what do you get? Equality is not participating... they would both be out of the games," he said.

Matiba said he knew of no official move to boycott the games because of the English tour. "It is not a matter that has been officially raised with us, even by the Supreme Council for Sport in Africa," the minister said.

Khan claims British title

WEMBLEY, England (AP) — Jahangir Khan of Pakistan, the world No. 1 continued his relentless sequence of victories by winning the British Open Squash Championship for the third successive year at the Wembley Conference Centre Tuesday night.

Khan, unbeaten for three years, predictably beat his countryman Qamar Zaman 9-0, 9-3, 9-5, in 42 minutes in front of the biggest live squash audience in history.

A packed arena of 2,600 saw Khan, still only 20, produce his usual mixture of lightning winners and spectacular retrieving in the unique perspex court, which allowed spectators to view the match from all sides.

Khan, who dropped only 40 points in five matches on his way to the title, picked up the first prize of £4,000 (\$5,720). Zaman received £2,750 (\$3,930).

Khan, the most successful member of his renowned squash-playing family, underlined his world supremacy in ruthless style.

He took the first game in less than 10 minutes and although his veteran compatriot, 33 on Wednesday, occasionally turned on the style with exquisite winners from his vast array of shots, Khan was always in control.

Zaman, who lost to Khan in the semi-finals here from 1981 to 1983, was made to work furiously for the few points he picked up as Khan placed the ball almost at will around the court.

He had his chances in the third game but never got further than 5-5 as Khan — unbeaten since his defeat here by Australian Geoff Hunt in the 1981 final — stepped up the pressure in a series of punishing rallies.

Wilander, No. 1 for W.German Open

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — Swedish teenager Mats Wilander was Wednesday named as top seed for the \$250,000 West German Open Championships starting on May 7.

Wilander, 19, heads a field which includes 11 of the world's top 20 players, including Yannick Noah of France, Jose Higuera of Spain, Argentine Davis Cup stars Guillermo Vilas and Jose-Luis Clerc, and Andres Gomez of Ecuador.

The Hamburg tournament is increasingly regarded as a vital warm-up to the first Grand Slam event of the season — the French Open Championships in Paris at the end of May which are also held on slow clay courts.

2 WBA title bouts set for Venezuela

CARACAS (R) — World Boxing Association (WBA) featherweight champion Eusebio Pedroza of Panama will defend his title against Venezuelan Angel Levy Mayor in Maracaibo, Venezuela, on May 12, fight promoter Ralfito Cedenio said.

Then on May 29 Mexican Lupe Madera will defend his WBA light flyweight title against Francisco Quiroz of the Dominican Republic, also in Maracaibo.

The two fights were to have been held last Saturday but were postponed when Podroza's camp questioned the legality of a tender in which Cedenio's organisation won the right to organise them.

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TIME TABLE EFF 25TH OF MARCH AMMAN-ATHENS			
DAY	DEP AMMAN	ARR ATHENS	
Monday	08:30	12:10	
Wednesday	08:30	12:10	
Friday	08:30	12:10	
Saturday	08:30	12:10	

ATHENS-AMMAN			
DAY	DEP ATHENS	ARR AMMAN	
Tuesday	18:45	20:20	
Thursday	18:45	20:20	
Friday	18:45	20:20	
Sunday	18:45	20:10	

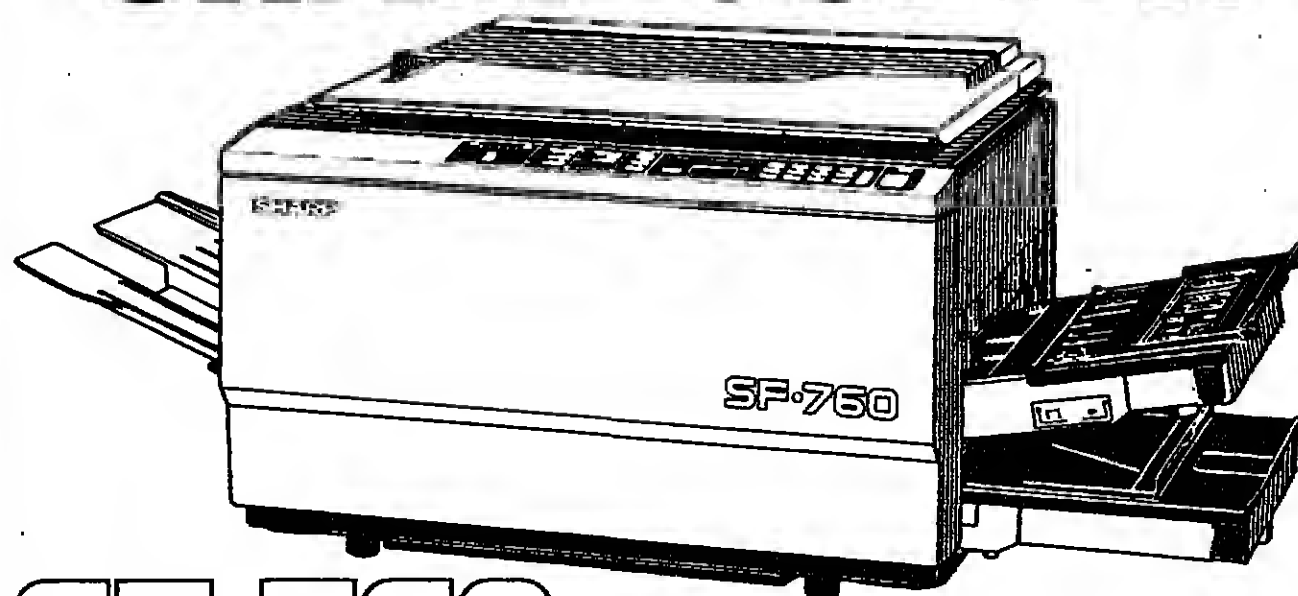
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THE EVIL
(Colour)
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BANDHE HATH
(Colour)
Indian

Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

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PALESTINE

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THE DRAGON
HERO
(Colour)
THE MIGHTY
KADAR
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema

RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

IN QUILAAB
(Colour)
"Indian film"

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

كوتنا من اجل

Reagan's Nicaragua policy suffers defeat in Senate

WASHINGTON (R) — In a major bipartisan defeat for President Reagan, the U.S. Senate has demanded that the White House cut off any funds to be used for mining Nicaraguan ports.

The Senate resolution Tuesday night, approved by a 84-12 vote, was not binding on the president but put Congress on record as opposing use of American funds to "plan, direct, execute or support the mining of the territorial waters of Nicaragua."

The administration has never publicly admitted that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) directly took part in attempts to disrupt trade to the leftist Managua government by laying mines.

But senior administration officials tried in secret briefings Tuesday to allay senators' fears about the mining, only to provoke hostility from both Republicans and Democrats.

Even conservative Republican Senator Barry Goldwater, normally a Reagan supporter, condemned the mining as "an act of war" in a letter to CIA Director William Casey. "For the life of

me, I don't see how we are going to explain it," Sen. Goldwater said.

Democratic Senator Edward Kennedy, who introduced the resolution as an amendment to a domestic tax bill, said the vote set the stage for a future attempt to actually cut off all U.S. funds for anti-government rebels in Nicaragua.

U.S. television networks Tuesday night quoted administration officials as saying that the mining operation had ended two days ago, but that it might be resumed.

Sen. Kennedy said the strong bipartisan reaction to the mining issue showed "the deep concern all Americans feel for American involvement in Central America."

The 100-member Senate, controlled by the Republicans, last week rejected all liberal Democratic efforts to defeat the president's urgent request for \$21

million in extra aid for guerrillas trying to overthrow the Nicaraguan government.

But confronted this week with published disclosures that the CIA was directly involved in the mining, even Mr. Reagan loyalists like Senate Republican leader Howard Baker broke ranks.

Many were angered because they were not informed about the alleged operation ahead of time, which is required by U.S. law.

At the time, the Arizona Republican denied charges that Mr. Reagan approved the mining.

Even more widespread was anger over the mining itself, which Sen. Goldwater said violated international law.

"We have employed the very terrorist tactics we condemn others for," said Republican Senator Larry Pressler of South Dakota.

The White House had attempted to forestall a vote but finally agreed to let it go forward when faced with mounting Senate mutiny over the issue.

A Senate aide said there were clearly enough votes to pass it and the White House did not want the matter postponed until after a 10-day Easter recess, giving critics an opportunity to prolong debate.

2 Hindus killed in Punjab

NEW DELHI (R) — Unidentified gunmen killed two Hindus and wounded another in two separate attacks in India's troubled Punjab state as authorities sent paramilitary troops into the Sikh holy city of Amritsar in an attempt to defuse tension.

A.P. Bhatnagar, the state's deputy superintendent of police, told Reuters six attackers shot dead two Hindus in their home at a village about 45 kilometres from the Punjab city of Jullundur late Tuesday night.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported another incident in which two Sikh gunmen shot and seriously wounded the leader of a militant Hindu organisation in Ferozepur town near the Punjab border with Pakistan.

The attacks occurred despite security forces in the rich farming state being out on high alert to head off sectarian violence during celebrations Tuesday marking the birthday of Lord Rama, one of the Hindu religion's main gods.

Bhatnagar said paramilitary Border Security Force (BSF) troops have started replacing units of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Amritsar. The redeployment came hours ahead of a planned statewide Sikh protest against the CRPF's presence.

The Sikh's main political party, the Akali Dal, had called protests Wednesday and on Friday against the CRPF, which it claimed was harassing Sikhs. It accused the CRPF of killing eight Sikhs during riots in Amritsar last week.

Thousands of paramilitary troops have been deployed across Punjab since last October when Prime Minister Indira Gandhi took direct control of the state by imposing presidential rule.

Informed sources told Reuters the withdrawal of CRPF troops from Amritsar signified a concession to growing Sikh political pressure. The sources said the BSF has a large number of Sikhs in its ranks while the CRPF troops being pulled out of Amritsar consist mostly of Hindus.

The sources added that tension had also been rising between units of the mainly Sikh local police and CRPF men patrolling Amritsar, headquarters of a 20-month-old Sikh campaign to wrest political and religious concessions from Mrs. Gandhi's government.

Soyuz T-10 touches down in Central Asia

MOSCOW (R) — A three-man Soviet-Indian space crew touched down safely in Central Asia Wednesday after a week aboard the orbiting space station Salyut-7.

State television said their landing craft, Soyuz T-10, had landed just east of the town of Arkalik in the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan at 1449 Moscow time (1049 GMT).

As the descent module parachuted down, a fleet of three planes and five helicopters patrolled the desert area in Kazakhstan ready to rush in and help the cosmonauts out of their craft.

The three-man crew included Rakesh Sharma, India's first man in space and the 11th foreigner to take part in a Soviet mission.

His colleagues were Yuri Malyshev and Gennady Strekalov. A television report from mission control, just outside Moscow, said the craft had touched down right on schedule and without problems. The crew were said to be well.

They blasted off from Baikonour in Soviet Central Asia eight days ago and docked with Salyut-7 and its three resident spacemen on April 4.

They returned in the craft which took Soviet cosmonauts Leonid

COLUMNS 7 & 8

Dog and snake meat soups banned

SEOUL (R) — The South Korean government Wednesday banned restaurants from serving traditional soups made from dog and snake meat to improve the country's image for the 1986 Asian Games and 1988 Olympics being held here. A government statement said the ban, which had already been enforced in Seoul, would now take effect throughout the country. Both snake and dog are eaten in several Asian countries, including China. Seoul civic authorities reported that 300 dog meat soup shops which had served the dish in the capital had been closed and others were being phased out. Dog meat soup (Boshintang) is believed by many Koreans to help invigorate health during the hot summer months. Snake meat soup is traditionally served in the cold winter months. The ban has caused a lively debate in Seoul newspapers with readers' letters complaining that local habits formed over hundreds of years should not be changed to suit foreigners.

Everest climbing time reserved

PEKING (AP) — Anyone wanting to climb Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, must wait until 1987, the Chinese Mountaineering Association said Tuesday. Despite an average fee of 15,000 yuan (\$7,500) per climber charged by the Chinese government, teams are stacked up awaiting their chance to conquer the 8,848-metre mountain. Association Vice Chairman Shi Zhanchun told a press conference that each year China permits five or six expeditions up Everest in the spring and autumn climbing seasons. Three teams are now on the mountain, an American group from Seattle, Washington, climbers from Cumbria, England, and a British Army Special Air Services team that has abandoned its attempt after an avalanche killed one of its members April 3.

20 die of cholera in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Twenty people have died of cholera and 136 more have been taken to hospital with the disease in the past 10 days in Pirojpur, 250 kilometres southeast of Dhaka, the English-language newspaper New National reported Wednesday. The newspaper said more than 200 people died of cholera in March in Pirojpur, where an epidemic has broken out. Quoting Pirojpur officials, the newspaper said the civil surgeon has acknowledged the deaths of 36 people out of 673 stricken by cholera, and officials agreed that cholera had broken out because of a shortage of drinking water.

Influential bookseller dies at 94

OXFORD, England (R) — Influential bookseller and publisher Sir Basil Blackwell, once described as the best-read man in Britain, has died at his home near Oxford, aged 94. His renowned Oxford business, which grew into a big international operation with a yearly turnover of £100 million (\$150 million), made him one of the world's leading booksellers. Sir Basil, who made a practice of rising at 6 a.m. to begin his day's huge reading quota before breakfast, was born in a room above the office where he was working until last Thursday. He never formally retired from the business, which his father founded in 1879. He continued to go to the family bookshop three or four days a week, although his sons handled much of the daily running of the firm. He died on Monday, the family said.

New Peruvian cabinet appointed

LIMA (R) — President Fernando Belaunde Terry Tuesday named Senator Sandro Mariategui as Peru's prime minister and foreign minister after the entire cabinet quit, the government press office said.

Facing his worst government crisis in nearly four years in power, the president also named three new ministers and re-appointed all 12 others.

The ministers had resigned in sympathy after Prime Minister Fernando Schwalb quit over a change in economic policies.

Mr. Mariategui, 64, was Economy Minister during Mr. Belaunde Terry's first term in office between 1963 and 1968.

After a military coup toppled Mr. Belaunde Terry in 1969, Mr. Mariategui spent nearly two years in jail, charged with responsibility for a steep devaluation of the Peruvian sol while he was in office. The supreme court later cleared him of the charges.

Mr. Mariategui, an influential leader of the ruling Popular Action Party, was president of the senate in 1982.

Mr. Schwalb said in his res-

ignation letter, dated March 30, but published only Tuesday night, that he supported the policies of former Economy, Finance and Trade Minister Carlos Rodriguez Pastor.

Mr. Rodriguez Pastor quit last month after President Belaunde Terry, under attack from the opposition, announced a change in economic policy and the forthcoming removal of two unnamed ministers.

The government's new economic policies will be announced later this week, a presidential spokesman said.

1 million Brazilians rally for direct polls

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilian opposition leaders said Wednesday one million people took part in a rally to demand direct elections — the biggest demonstration since the armed forces ousted the last civilian gov-

ernment 20 years ago.

Police estimated 500,000 people attended the rally in Rio Tuesday.

It was staged as a high note in an opposition campaign for direct elections two weeks before an

April 25 parliamentary debate on a proposal to amend the constitution.

Under the proposal, a successor to President Joao Figueiredo would be elected by direct popular vote.

Indonesia to move 700,000 Javanese to Irian Jaya

JAYAPURA, Indonesia (R) — Indonesia plans to move nearly 700,000 people from the overcrowded island of Java to the remote province of Irian Jaya over the next five years, the head of the Provincial Transmigration Office said.

Eko Sarwoko told Reuters the voluntary migration of 689,000 Javanese to the former Dutch West New Guinea would help economic development, promote Indonesia's integration and unity and benefit defence and security. It will boost the population of

the vast underdeveloped region from 1.2 million to nearly two million under the 1984-1989 five-year plan.

Irian Jaya's governor, Isaac Hindom, said the transmigration programme would enable the province to exploit its great economic potential faster and more effectively.

Mr. Hindom denied that the migrants from Java would dominate the local Irianese, mostly Melanesians of similar ethnic origins to the people across the border in Papua New Guinea.

Cameroun president orders military trial of coup activists

LONDON (R) — Cameroun President Paul Biya, who foiled a bid to oust him by dissident members of his Republican Guard last week, has said those involved in the coup attempt will be brought before a military tribunal without delay.

He said on Radio Yaounde Tuesday night the dissidents would be "brought before a military tribunal without delay to be tried and punished in accordance with our laws and commensurate with the extreme gravity of their crimes."

Mr. Biya in a speech to the nation, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, said the "seriousness and extent" of the coup had moved him to take "military, political and administrative measures to strengthen the security, information and public order services" in the West African state.

No official toll has been declared for those dead or injured in

two days of heavy fighting and destruction, but residents in Yaounde said many rebels, loyalist soldiers and civilians were killed. Loyalist troops engaged in fierce fighting to recapture from the rebels strategic buildings, including the Presidential Palace, the radio station and Yaounde Airport.

A Reuters correspondent in Cameroun counted 30 bodies of Republican Guards in the morgue of Yaounde's main hospital, and scores more being buried hastily in groups of two or three in bush areas close to the airport.

Informed sources said many civilians were also killed by stray bullets.

"Mr. Biya said the coup attempt was the responsibility of 'a minority of ambitious and power-hungry men, and not the responsibility of this or that province or Camerounians of this or that religion.'"

'Soviets use military aid to influence Third World'

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union uses military aid to the Third World as a major tool of policy, exporting more arms and sending more military advisers abroad than any other country, the U.S. Defence Department said Tuesday.

Since 1978, Moscow has shipped Third World nations a substantial volume of artillery, light armoured vehicles and surface-to-air missiles, according to the Pentagon.

In addition, it said, some 23,000 Soviet military personnel are now in Third World countries in addition to the 110,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

The assessment was included in the Defence Department's booklet, "Soviet military power 1984".

Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger told a news conference: "The USSR is continuing to press ahead with the continual upgrading of all elements of its strategic and conventional military force with an astonishing pace of increase."

Asked the reason for the build-up, he said it fitted into the

original doctrine of the Soviet Union, "and that is world domination — it's just that simple."

"They have been on a steady, strong continual course, an uphill path of increases in military strength, and increasing their research and development capabilities, their procurement, their deployment," Mr. Weinberger said. "And they never stop working on new versions."

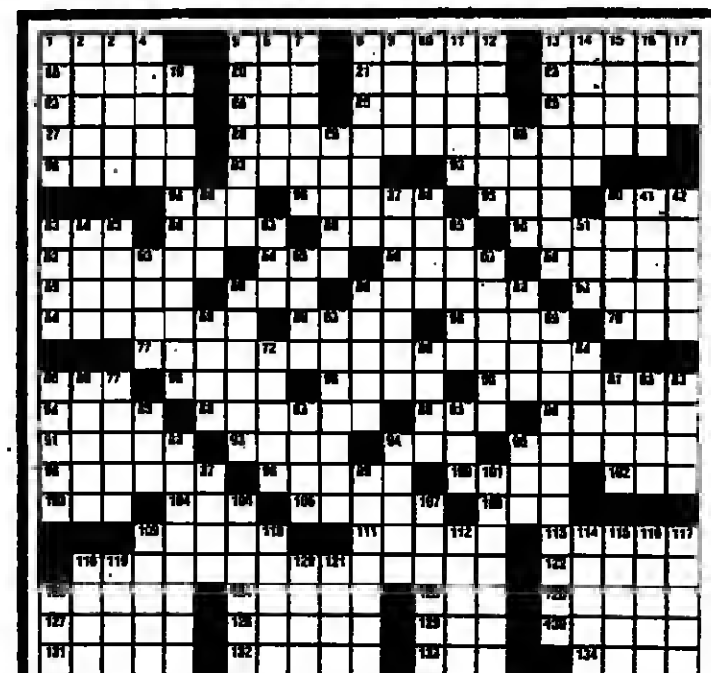
The booklet said military aid gives the Soviet Union an entree into areas previously beyond its influence and makes the countries receiving aid dependent on Moscow for training.

It said Soviet aid not only included arms but also military advisory groups and the use of proxies such as Cuban troops and East German intelligence and security personnel.

Since 1953, the booklet said the Soviet Union and its Eastern European allies have signed contracts for \$95 billion worth of aid to the Third World and by last year more than \$60 billion of it had been delivered. By 1979 it had surpassed the U.S. as a supplier of military aid to the Third World.

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Eliasson



Last Week's Cryptograms

1. Blessed are they who must go around in circles, for they often become big wheels.
2. Cheeky scientist rates same both one percent inspiration, ninety-nine percent perspiration.
3. Good needs feeding to grow. It can die fast of slow neglect.
4. Jack and Jill went up a real steep hill with brand new buckets.

CRYPTOGRAMS

1. EUQPE TOMXULAP EAKOTOC IZ EPL KEY PT
SMUTY US HNEFEPKPMOC AKCPOL ZPTN
EROONOC HPMAL .KTC VY EKQOMEL
—By Marlene E. Adams

2. BFAAPRI PENEAAPZXC BCVIA, RUUA, RI, PC
NLEZVXT PRIM MLT.
—By Connie Ransfield

3. LPTB PRO FPYC ZUZZULUO APXIPW PRO
ASLB YB SCO EPCE WPLUB ZPEAF.
—By Martha P. Gerner

4. LOTS AXPQ MIXLORE TSOBBUR EUME
IREKIXORIP EXOAO.
—By E.P. Grover

5. LOTS AXPQ MIXLORE TSOBBUR EUME
IREKIXORIP EXOAO.
—By E.P. Grover

6. LOTS AXPQ MIXLORE TSOBBUR EUME
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IREKIXORIP EXOAO.
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19. LOTS AXPQ MIXLORE TSOBBUR EUME
IREKIXORIP EXOAO.
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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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NOT SAFE, JUST SORRY

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♦ AKQ4
♥ 432
♦ J4
♣ J742

WEST EAST
♦ 983 ♦ J10652
♥ QJ75 ♥ 6
♦ A6 ♦ 1095
♣ K923 ♣ AQ106

SOUTH
♦ 7
♥ AK1098
♦ KQ8732
♣ 5

The bidding:

South West North East
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Nine of ♠.

There is a collection of standard safety plays to give yourself the best chance of limiting your losers in given situations. But be sure you know the cost of your insurance.

South opened the shorter of his two suits because his hand wasn't quite good enough for a reverse. His decision to go on to four hearts is open to question, especially since he knew that much of his partner's values in the black suits was going to be wasted.

West might have led the unbid suit in view of South's reluctance to play a no trump contract. He chose instead to lead from top of nothing in spades, and thereby presented declarer with a trick. South won the king of spades and discarded a club on the queen of spades. Now declarer should have been happy to lose two heart tricks and a diamond.

Correct technique is to cash one high heart and then proceed to force out the ace of diamonds. Even if diamonds and hearts both break badly, your contract is safe.

Unfortunately, declarer had read something about safety plays. He led a heart from dummy and, instead of going up with the ace, he finessed the eight. West won and was quick to force declarer with a club. The contract could no longer be made.

After ruffing the club, declarer tried the ace of hearts, and discovered the break. Now he forced out the ace of diamonds, but West countered by forcing declarer with another club. Declarer ended up losing three trump tricks and the ace of diamonds, for down one.